

## Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 ARAE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 DODE-00

SCCT-01 AID-05 SY-05 CU-02 A-01 OPR-02 OMB-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 USSS-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 OC-05 CCO-00

PC-01 L-02 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 /077 W

----- 121592

P R 221427Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8239

INFO FBIS PANAMA

FBIS WASHDC

VOA WASHDC

USCINCSO

FT AMADOR

COMANTDEFCOM

COMUSAFSO/ALBROOK AFB

USASA DET SOCOM FT CLAYTON CZ

COMUSNAVFORSO COMFIFTEEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 3657

USCINCSO ATTN J-2 AND J-5

FT AMADOR FOR G-2

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT CO

SUBJ: COLOMBIAN SECURITY SITUATION

REF: FBIS REPORT PA 190432 PARIS AFP

1. SUBJECT FBIS REPORT TITLED "ARMY TAKES CONTROL OF  
MAJOR CITIES IN COLOMBIA" PRESENTS COMPLETELY FALSE DESCRIPTION  
OF THE SITUATION IN COLOMBIA AND SHOULD REMIND END USERS OF  
THE UNEVEN RELIABILITY OF THE REPORTS FBIS MONITORS.  
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2. ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 18 THE PAPAL NUNCIO, DRIVING HIS OWN CAR PAST THE UNIVERSITY CITY (NATIONAL UNIVERSITY) WAS STOPPED BY LJOQUK # OF STUDENTS, PART OF A GROUP WHO HAD RETURNED SAZV # PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION DOWNTOWN COM- MEMORATING THE DEATHS OF TWO STUDENTS IN CLASHES WITH POLICE A YEAR AGO. THE NUNCIO WAS DRAGGED FROM HIS CAR, SHAKEN UP, AND HIS CAR WAS DRIVEN INTO THE UNIVERSITY GROUNDS, TURNED OVER, AND BURNED. POLICE REMAINED OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY WHILE THE OCCURRED. REPORTEDLY, THREE OTHER VEHICLES WERE BURNED BY DEMONSTRATORS. THE POLICE MANAGED TO KEEP EVENTS FROM GETTING WORSE BY MAINTAINING A PRUDENT DISTANCE FROM THE STUDENTS. THERE WERE NO OTHER "DISORDERS" OR VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS" IN BOGOTA.

3. THE ARMY DID NOT "TAKE CONTROL" OF BOGOTA OR OTHER MAJOR CITIES. WHAT DID HAPPEN WAS THAT, IN AN UNRELATED EVENT, UNITS OF THE MILITARY ON NIGHTS OF APR 18 AND 19 ENGAGED IN PREVIOUSLY PLANNED OPERATIONS IN SECTIONS OF DOWNTOWN BOGOTA TO CHECK HABITUÉS OF BARS, BROTHELS, CHEAP HOTELS, FOR DOCUMENTS, ILLEGAL WEAPONS, AND TO SEEK PERSONS WANTED BY POLICE. THIS A PERIODIC ACTIVITY, PART OF A CONTINUING PLAN INITIATED BY PRESIDENT LOPEZ SOON AFTER HIS INAUGURATION DESIGNED TO MAKE THE STREETS SAFE FOR COLOBIANS.

4. ELSEWHERE IN COLOMBIA, THERE WAS SOME VIOLENCE IN ARMENIA ON APR 18, FOLLOWING A DEMONSTRATION SIMILAR TO THAT HELD IN BOGOTA, IN WHICH SEVERAL SHOP WINDOWS WERE BROKEN, SOME LOOTING OCCURED AND A FEW ARRESTS WERE MADE.

5. COMMENT: EXCEPT FOR THE INDIGNITIES SUFFERED BY THE NUNCIO IT WAS A FAIRLY HUMDRUM PERIOD. CLASHES BETWEEN POLICE AND STUDENTS, AND BURNING OF VEHICLES HAVE BEEN NOT UNCOMMON OCCURRENCES IN COLOMBIA DURING RECENT YEARS. POLICE RESTRAINT, APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF A NEW POLICY OF "NO MORE MARTYRS" KEPT THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE BELOW WHAT MIGHT NORMALLY HAVE BEEN EXPECTED.

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VAKY

NOTE BY OC/T: GARBLED TEXT AS RECEIVED

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL DISORDERS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BOGOTA03657  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750140-1065  
**From:** BOGOTA  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750426/aaaaaxyo.tel  
**Line Count:** 110  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 FBIS REPORT PA 190432  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COLOMBIAN SECURITY SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, CO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006